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Palestine

The Mufti

No. 188

9.7.48.

With reference to our No. 188 of July 2nd, the following information, dated June 3rd-23rd, was obtained by a reliable Palestine Arab source from conversations with the Mufti himself and one of his representatives in the Levant States. Our representative points out that the information is prior to the Mufti's meeting with King Abdullah in Cairo.

Our  
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Recd 13/7/48

The Mufti's terms for Palestine

(i) The Mufti, who was opposed to the truce from the beginning, still insists on the following conditions for a solution of the Palestine problem:-

- (a) Abolition of the State of Israel;
- (b) Cessation of Jewish immigration;
- (c) Arabs of Palestine to decide their own future;
- (d) Jews who have acquired legal Palestinian citizenship to remain; all recent immigrants to be turned out;
- (e) No solution to be valid unless approved by the Mufti's own version of the Arab Higher Executive.

(ii) The Mufti has declared that, if the Arab states are induced by Britain to acknowledge the annexation of Arab Palestine to Transjordan, or to tolerate the Jewish state, he is firmly resolved to stir up the Arab populations against their rulers.

Funds for the guerrillas

(iii) The Mufti has been devoting much effort and money to the maintenance of his own guerrillas in Palestine. In the first week in June he gathered a number of the guerrilla leaders together in Damascus and promised them money, equipment and ammunition. During the following week he paid 8,000 Egyptian pounds to Rafiq Tawfik, the representative of the Arab Higher Executive in Damascus, and 7,000 Egyptian pounds to Khalil Haddad, the representative in Beirut, for the purchase of arms and ammunition.

(iv) The Mufti is reported independently to have told a Syrian journalist that the Arab League cut down its monthly allocation to him to 5,000 Palestinian pounds after 15th May.

(v) Early in June a delegation representing the Mufti left Damascus in order to raise money and disseminate propaganda in Iraq, Iran and Pakistan. All three members of the delegation were

/prominent

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prominent members of the Ikhwan al Muslimin.

The Arab Palestine Office

(vi) At the beginning of June, Musa Alami and Dr. Yussuf Haikal (Mayor of Jaffa) visited the Lebanon with the object of persuading Palestinian members to go to London for the election of members of the proposed Arab Palestine Office - an anti-Mufti body intended to replace the Arab Higher Executive. They were not successful. Haikal, however, formed a Committee of Palestinian Youth, which is to make propaganda in the Lebanon and Palestine against the Mufti.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. SC 15427

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Palestine

DATE DISTR. 16 July 1948

SUBJECT 1. Views and Activities of the Mufti  
2. Anti-Mufti Activities of Musa Alami  
and Yusuf Haykal

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DATE OF INFO 3-23 June 1948

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. SO-15232\*

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH  
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

### \*SOURCE

Reliable Palestinian Arab source, from the Grand Mufti and from the Mufti's representatives in the Levant.

- The Grand Mufti, Hajj Amin Husayni, who from the beginning was opposed to a truce in Palestine, up until the time of King 'Abdallah's trip to Cairo still insisted on the following conditions as a solution of the Palestine problem:
  - Abolition of the state of Israel.
  - Cessation of Jewish immigration.
  - Decision regarding the future of Palestinian Arabs to be made by the Palestinian Arabs themselves.
  - All Jews who have acquired legal Palestinian citizenship to remain; all others to be expelled.
  - No solution of the problem to be valid unless approved by the Mufti's own version of the Arab Higher Executive.
- The Mufti has declared that, if the Arab states are induced by Great Britain to acknowledge the annexation of Arab Palestine to Transjordan or to tolerate Israel, he is firmly resolved to stir up the Arab populations against their rulers.
- The Mufti has been devoting much effort and money to the maintenance of his own guerrillas in Palestine. During the first week in June he gathered together a number of guerrilla leaders in Damascus and promised them money, equipment and ammunition. During the following week he paid \$8,000 to Rafiq Tamini, Damascus representative of the Arab Higher Executive, and \$7,000 to Kamal Hadda, Beirut representative of the Executive, for the purchase of arms and ammunition. Also in early June a delegation representing the Mufti left Damascus for the purpose of raising money and disseminating propaganda in Iraq, Iran and Pakistan. Of this latter delegation three members were prominent members of the Ikhwan al-Muslimin. The Mufti reportedly told a Syrian journalist that after 15 May the Arab League had cut its monthly allocation to him to \$5,000.

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